



# ***News Release***

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## ***U.S. Representative Chris Chocola***

***Second District, Indiana***

**For Immediate Release**  
**Monday, July 11, 2005**  
**On the Web: <http://Chocola.house.gov>**

**Contact: Rob Vernon**  
**Office: 202-225-3915**  
**Cell: 202-225-1326**

### **Chocola, Madison Center CEO, and Community Leaders Break Ground on Nation's First Geropsychology Institute**

*First-in-the-nation facility will lead research on issues facing our aging population*

**SOUTH BEND** – Estimates by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services indicate that by 2030, older adults will account for nearly 20% of the U.S. population. Recognizing there will be a need to understand the psychological needs of this aging population, representatives from the Madison Center informed U.S. Rep. Chris Chocola (R-Ind.) of their idea to build the nation's first Geropsychology Institute.

Chocola liked what he heard, and sought out to secure the seed money for the Geropsychology Institute. In November 2004, he delivered \$200,000 in federal funds for the project through the Fiscal Year 2005 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriation bill.

Today, Chocola, Madison Center representatives, and community leaders took part in a ceremonial groundbreaking at the site of the first-in-the-nation Geropsychology Institute.

"By 2010, estimates indicate there will be 1.1 million Hoosiers over 60 years of age; that number jumps to 1.5 million in 2030," said Chocola. "The Madison Center's Geropsychology Institute will address the mental health needs of this aging population by conducting research into the latest psychological techniques. I share their goal of helping older persons and their families maintain well being, overcoming problems, and achieving maximum potential during later life, and I am glad I could play a small part in making this facility a reality."

While completing its cutting-edge research, the Geropsychology Institute will translate its findings into practice immediately by including prevention, assessment, consultation, and intervention services for its patients.

"Mental well-being is clearly a high-priority issue for not only our aging Hoosier population, but also their families and friends who care about them," said Chocola. "I know this facility will help unravel many of the mental health problems confronting our nation's seniors."

The new Geropsychology Institute is a core strategic component of Madison Center's major campus expansion along the St. Joseph River in the northeast edge of downtown South Bend, Ind. It will be a freestanding, 78,000 square foot facility located in the heart of Madison Center's campus for clinical service, research, and education.

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